

MINUTES

—OF THE—

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Mt. Carmel Baptist
Association,

—HELD WITH—

UNION CHURCH,

JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA,

October 6th, 7th and 8th, 1899.

“UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL.”

OFFICERS:

REV. J. L. JONES. Moderator

REV. J. H. VANN, Clerk New Hope, Ala.

GURLEY, ALA:

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1899.

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MINUTES.

Of the twenty-third session of the Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Association held with Union Church, Jackson county, Ala., October 6th, 7th and 8th, 1899.

October 6th 1899—11 a. m.

Introductory sermon by Rev. J. H. Vann, from Matthew 28:19-20.

Then adjourned 1½ hours for rest and refreshments.

At 1:30 p. m. the Association assembled and sang "Amazing Grace." Rev. J. W. Campbell, Moderator, read from 17th chapter of John and led in prayer. The house was called to order and labors assumed.

ROLL OF CHURCHES AND MESSENGERS.

Antioch———

Center———

Cave Spring—Rev. L. D. Vann.

Cedar Point—W. C. Goss, D. Cobb and I. Myers.

Cedar Grove, Sr.—Letter.

Cedar Grove, Jr.—R. C. Glover J. R. Campbell, J. M. Lee.

Hales Cove—J. H. Gwathney, John Finley.

Mount Pleasant—W. J. Gwathney, David Floranory and Rev. W. A. Pigg.

Mount Zion—Samuel Wind, T. F. Gearen.

Mountain Grove—G. H. Blackburn, C. W. Hill and Rev. J. H. Vann.

New Prospect—R. W. Winkles, S. B. Evans and Rev. H. H. Bridges.

Nazareth———

Pleasant Mount—John Bays, John Harbin and Lee Nash.

Union—J. N. Vandiver, S. H. Bryant and Rev. J. L. Jones.

ELECTION OF MODERATOR AND CLERK.

Rev. J. L. Jones, - - - - - - - - Moderator.

Rev. J. H. Vann, - - - - - - - - Clerk.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

Devotional Committee—Pastor and Deacons of Union Church.

Committee on Finance—Rev. H. H. Bridges and W. J. Gwathney.

Committee on Sabbath School—John Bays, J. N. Vandiver and Rev. L. D. Vann.

Committee on Synopsis of Church Letters—S. B. Evans and Dickson Cobb.

Committee on Missions—G. H. Blackburn, Revs. H. H. Bridges and J. M. Lee.

Committee on Nominations.—Isaac Myers, T. F. Gearen and John Finley.

Committee on Temperance—J. H. Gwathney, Samuel Wind and W. C. Goss.

Committee on Correspondence—Revs. J. H. Vann, W. A. Pigg and H. H. Bridges.

Committee on Obituaries—Revs. L. D. Vann and J. M. Lee.

Committee on Periodicals—Revs. J. H. Vann, W. A. Pigg and R. W. Winkles.

VISITORS PRESENT.

From North Liberty Association--Rev. H. E. Rice, G. W. Benson and J. R. Kennedy.

From Tennessee River Association--J. A. Flanigan, A. J. Flanigan, W. A. Howell, Wm. Taylor and Martin Williams.

REPORT OF DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE.

Revs W. A. Pigg and L. D. Vann, at the church; J. H. Vann, at Bro. John Ezell's to-night; H. E. Rice at church to-morrow, 11 a. m.

On motion of H. H. Bridges, we adjourned until Saturday, 9 a. m.

SECOND DAYS' SESSION.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1899--11 a. m.

We reassembled and sang, "Standing by the Cross". The Moderator read from St. John 14th chapter. Prayer by Rev. W. A. Pigg.

On roll call a quorum being present we reassumed labors. Minutes read and approved.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We your committee beg leave to submit the following: We find but little said about Sabbath Schools. We recommend that each church in this Association that has no Sabbath school, make an effort to have one, for we know of no better way to train the minds of the young people of our land.

REV. L. D. VANN, Chairman.

Discussed by Revs. L. D. Vann, H. H. Bridges, J. H. Vann and on motion of Rev. H. H. Bridges, the report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SYNOPSIS OF CHURCH LETTERS.

We find there has been some revivals in some of the churches and God has saved some souls in the bounds of our Association. We also find that Death has claimed some of our beloved brethren and sisters in the last year. Also, but very little interest manifested in Sabbath Schools or prayer-meetings, and but little interest taken in the cause of missions.

S. B. EAVES, Chairman.

On motion of Rev. L. D. Vann, the report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

We favor missions and mission work. We know of no better plan than the gospel plan. Our Savior said, "Go into all the world and preach My gospel to every creature." We sincerely hope and insist that all churches will ably support their pastors and contribute of their means to that extent, which will insure the preaching of the gospel in all places of destitution in the bounds of this Association, and in our own land and in foreign lands. We further recommend that this Association select an evangelist and put him in the field.

REV. H. H. BRIDGES, Chairman.

Discussed by Revs. H. H. Bridges, H. E. Rice, J. H. Vann and adopted, by motion of Rev. W. A. Pigg.

At 11 a. m. Rev. H. F. Rice preached a timely and sympathetic sermon to a large and appreciative audience.

After one hour's rest and refreshments the Association reassembled and sang a hymn and prayer was offered by the Moderator.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

We recommend that this body meet with Cave Spring Church in 1900. Rev. W A Pigg to preach Introductory Sermon; J J Swearingin, Alternate. Rev. J H Vann to preach Mission Sermon on Sunday: H H Bridges, Alternate.

T. F. GEAREN, Chairman.

On Motion of Rev. W A Pigg the report was adopted.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Received from the different churches as Minute funds. \$9.40.

H H Bridges, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

We learn from God's word that wine is a mocker, strong drink it raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise, also that no drunkard can enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Again we learn that whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. We should be temperate, chaste, virtuous, and abstain from all fleshly lusts and above all, my brethren abstain from strong drink for it is one of the greatest curses of our land.

W C Goss, Chairman.

Discussed by Revs. H H Bridges, J H Vann.

On motion of Rev. W A Pigg the report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE.

We recommend correspondence: With Tennessee River, Liberty North, and Town Creek Associations, also with the Alabama Baptist State Convention.

Rev. J H Vann, Chairman.

Rev. W A Pigg moved the adoption. Carried.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES.

We find from reports that God has called from this earthly field of labor 19 of our beloved brethren and sisters during the past year as follows:

Union—Sister Clindo Fitch and Bro. M B Jones.

Cave Spring—J W Cowan, Sisters Dora Baker, Rachel Cushion, M S Lanier, Rebecka Jenkins and Martha Glover.

Cedar Grove, Sr.,—Five.

Pleasant Mount W G Preston, Sisters Sallie Griffin, Poly Armstrong and Ida Kelley.

Mountain Grove—Elisa Rice.

Mount Pleasant—G W Thompson and Wash Skelton.

We feel that we sustained a great loss, but hope their's is eternal gain; we therefore extend our sympathies to the bereaved, and bow in submission to Him who doeth all things well.

Rev. L D Vann, Chairman.

On motion of Rev. L D Vann, the report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PERIODICALS.

We recommend the careful and prayerful studies of the Bible, the book of God, above all things; we also recommend the Alabama Baptist, paper published by Baptists; also recommend the use of the Sunday-school helps, prepared by the Baptist Sunday-school board at Nashville, Tenn. We also insist on all

members in this Association to abstain from reading novels and story papers for they are hurtful in their influence.

J H Vann, Chairman.

Unanimously adopted.

Resolved that the thanks of this body are due and hereby tendered to Union church and community for their kindness and hospitality shown us during our stay among them. May the blessings of God still abide with them. Amen.

Rev. L D Vann.

On motion of Rev. W A Pigg all church clerks are requested to report the value of their church property and the amount paid as pastors support to each annual meeting of this body.

Clerk.

REPORT OF DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE.

Rev. H H Bridges preach to-night at M E Church.

APPOINTMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Revs. H H Bridges, J H Vann, W A Pigg, J L Jones and S B Evans to Tennessee River Association; Revs. L D Vann, J J Swearingin and G H Blackburn to Liberty North Association.

On motion of Rev. J H Vann, we adjourned to meet with Cave Spring church, Friday 11 a m. before the second Sunday in October, 1900.

We sang, 'How Firm a Foundation' and took the parting hand, feeling that it was good to be here. Prayer by Rev. H H Bridges. Benediction by Rev. L D Vann.

Sunday, October 8, 11 a m. song and prayer by Rev. H H Bridges. Sermons by Revs. J L Jones and L D Vann—text, Acts 10th chapter, 15th verse.

REV. J L JONES, Moderator.

REV. J H VANN, CLERK. New Hope, Alabama.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one living and true God—Father, Son and Holy Ghost and these three are one.
2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.
3. We believe that by one man sin entered into the world and death by sin, and so death has passed upon all, for all have sinned.
4. We believe that Jesus Christ, by the grace of God, tasted death for every man, and though his meritorious death the way of Salvation is opened for God to have mercy upon all that come unto Him upon gospel terms.
5. Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
6. We believe the saints shall persevere in grace and that none of them shall be finally lost.
7. We believe there will be a resurrection of the dead and a general judgment, and that the happiness of the saints and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.
8. We believe the church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women, who have obtained fellowship of one another and have given themselves to the Lord and to one another, having agreed to keep up a godly discipline, according to the will of God in gospel discipline.
9. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great Head of the church, and the government thereof is with the body.
10. We believe that true believers are the only fit subjects for baptism and that immersion is the gospel mode.
11. We believe that none but regular baptized members have a right to commune at the Lord's table.
12. We believe that the Lord's day ought to be kept holy and set apart for worship; that no works shall be done except works of piety.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| C W McClellan | Crowton, Ala. |
| J W Brown | New Hope, " |
| J H Vann | " " |
| R C Clark | " " |
| J W Campbell | Garth, " |
| L D Vann | Owen X Roads, " |
| F J Rigney | Berkley " |
| D F Treece | New Hope, " |
| W A Pigg | Nat. " |
| J L Jones | Garth, " |
| G W Ezell | " " |
| S P Wilson | Swearingin, " |
| H H Bridges | Hornet, " |

LICENTIATES.

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| J J Swearingin | Gurley, " |
| D A Derrick | New Hope, " |
| Jas. Lee | Gurley, " |
| A Moring | " " |
| J G Blackburn | New Hope, " |

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. Each session shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. None shall be admitted as delegates but such as come recommended by letter from the church to which they belong.
3. Churches petitioning by letter for admission, if found orderly and sound Baptist Churches, may be admitted, and the Moderator, in behalf of the association, shall extend the right hand of fellowship to the delegates and invite them to seats.
4. All who have anything to offer shall rise to their feet and address the Moderator.
5. While one is speaking the others must keep silent; yet all men have an equal right to speak in turn.
6. No partiality, or respect of persons is to be shown, but every subject is to be discussed with gravity and modesty, and a sincere aim after truth.
7. Every motion made and seconded shall be attended to unless withdrawn by the mover.
8. There shall be no debate permitted, without a motion or resolution written or understood by the body.
9. The Moderator shall be a judge of order, and shall call to order any person whom he deems out of order. There may be an appeal from his judgment to the body.
10. When there is a motion under discussion, no motion is in order except to amend, postpone or adjourn.
11. In time of business, no member should leave the house without leave of the Moderator.
12. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the association.
13. The Moderator has the right to speak on any subject, provided he fills the chair, not without. He can not vote except in case of a tie.
14. All petitions sent up on church letters shall be prayerfully considered and answered.
15. If the Moderator fails to carry out and enforce the rules of order he may be reminded of it respectfully by any member of the body.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Reading letters from churches and recording the names of the Messengers.
2. Election of Moderator and Clerk.
3. Appointment of Committees.
4. Call for Petitionary Letters.
5. Call for Correspondence, and inviting visiting Brethren to seats.
6. Report of Standing Committees.
7. Report of Executive Committee.
8. Report of Evangelist.
9. Report of Committees appointed at this session.
10. Election of Evangelist and Executive Committee.
11. Appointment of Correspondence.
12. Appointment of time and place of Holding next Session.
13. Appointment of Brother to preach the Introductory and Missionary Sermons.
14. Miscellaneous Business.

CONSTITUTION.

We, as apart of the churches of Jesus Christ, of North Alabama, having been thrown together as an association of churches, that we may be better enabled to promote the cause of Christ, do adopt the following constitution:

Article 1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches of our union, who, upon producing their letters, shall be entitled to seats.

Art. 2. The members thus chosen and convened, shall be known by the name of Mount Carmel Association, whose power shall be to act as an advisory counsel, and to control the means placed in their hands for associational and missionary purposes, and to receive other churches when properly qualified.

Art. 3. Each church shall be entitled to three delegates, chosen by the churches they represent.

Art. 4. The officers of this body shall consist of a Moderator, Treasurer and Clerk, who shall be chosen, annually from the members of this body, and hold their offices until their successors are chosen.

Art. 5. The Moderator shall not be eligible to two terms in succession.

Art. 6. Churches may be admitted to membership by petitionary letter and delegates with the unanimous consent of the body.

Art. 7. The association may adopt any scriptural measures to raise means for associational or missionary purposes.

Art. 8. The association shall elect one of its members annually to preach an introductory sermon and an alternate, and one to preach a missionary sermon on the Sabbath, and an alternate.

Art. 9. A majority of the churches composing this Association must be represented to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Art. 10. Delegates from any of the churches without letters, may be admitted without letters by a two-thirds vote of the body.

Art. 11. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the body.



Statistics of Mt. Carmel Baptist Association, 1899.

| Church | County | Pastor | Clerk | Clerk's P. O. | Membership Last Report | Baptized | Received by Letter | Restoration | Dismissed by Letter | Excluded | Deaths | Present Membership | Preaching Sabbaths | Reports | Revivals |
|------------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------|------------------------|----------|--------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Antioch | Morgan | J. E. Crow | Crowton | 40 | | | | | | | | 40 | | | |
| Cedar Grove, Sr. | Madison | D. F. Treece | New Hope | 112 | | | | | | | 5 | 108 | 2 | 1 | |
| Cedar Grove, Jr. | " | L. D. Vann | Molder | 36 | | | | | 2 | 1 | | 33 | 2 | | 1 |
| Center | Marshall | L. W. Sloan | Menigold | | | | | | | | | | | 2 | 1 |
| Cedar Point | Madison | J. H. Vann | Poplar Ridge | 35 | | | | | 4 | | 6 | 114 | 1 | 1 | |
| Cave Spring | " | W. A. Pigg | Owens X Roads | 127 | | | | 1 | 1 | 2 | 19 | 19 | 3 | 1 | |
| Mt. Pleasant | Jackson | F. J. Rigney | Paint Rock | 20 | | | | 1 | | | 1 | 46 | 1 | 1 | |
| Mt. Zion | " | J. H. Vann | " | 28 | | | | 4 | | | 2 | 35 | 3 | 1 | |
| Mountain Grove | Madison | J. H. Vann | New Hope | 15 | | | | | | | | 14 | 1 | 1 | |
| New Prospect | Marshall | J. H. Vann | Sweetening | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nazareth | Jackson | W. A. Pigg | Molder | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hales Cove | Jackson | O. S. Wells | Gurth | 77 | | | | 2 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 72 | 1 | 1 | |
| Pleasant Mount | Madison | J. J. Jones | Gurley | 49 | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 39 | 4 | | |
| Tunion | Jackson | J. H. Vann | Gurth | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | | | | 600 | 16 | 10 | 7 | 11 | 11 | 20 | 579 | | | 7 | |

